

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-29 (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A content providing server that executes a content transmission process to a client connected via a local area network, comprising:

a tuner that receives content over channels;

a data transmission/reception section that executes a communication process between the server and the client via the local area network for the content and control information;

a storage section having attribute information corresponding to the content as content information;

a content management section providing the content information to the client;
and

a content distribution control section that executes live streaming of the content to the client via the local area network,

wherein the storage section stores a first channel list including the channels, and
wherein the content distribution control section streams the content,
corresponding to the channels, the content being simultaneously streamed over a single connection as a single unit of controlled content, the single unit of streamed content being represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator)[[.]] and being streamed

on the basis of a control request corresponding to a second channel list received from the client.

31. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

the storage section is configured to store the URLs as attribute information corresponding to the content; and

the content distribution control section is configured to stream the content on the basis of the single URL, according to the control request from the client.

32. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content between the server and the client is an HTTP (HyperText Transport Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

the content distribution control section streams the content via the HTTP connection before and after channel switching, wherein the channel switching comprises switching between the channels described in the second channel list.

33. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content information contains protocol information comprising a function ID, as tuner identification information, corresponding to the tuner; and

the content distribution control section is configured to set a control instance that executes control over the content, by executing control over the tuner based on the function ID.

34. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content distribution control section sets a control instance to execute control for streaming content; and

a tuner control instance executes control over the content by controlling the tuner on the basis of the control request from the client.

35. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content distribution control section is configured to:

set a control instance to execute control for streaming content; and

execute connection management based on a connection management table comprising an instance ID as an identifier of the control instance, a connection ID as a connection identifier between the server and the client, and protocol information corresponding to the content.

36. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content distribution control section is configured to:

set a control instance for streaming content, wherein the control instance is configured to have an instance ID set as an identifier; and

execute the content distribution control according to a control request from the client, wherein the client request designates the control instance ID.

37. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content distribution control section is configured to:

receive a control request from the client, for streaming the content, wherein the control request is compliant with a SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol); and

execute distribution control over the content on the basis of the control request.

38. (Currently Amended) The content providing server as described in claim

30, wherein:

the first channel list is configured to be set as a list formed from the plurality of channels divided according to categories.

39. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the content distribution control section is configured to:

- set the single URL as an identifier for the second channel list;
- receive an HTTP-GET method as a content request from another client, the request invoking the URL; and
- stream, through an HTTP connection, content based on the single URL invoked by the client.

40. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content between the server and the client is an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) connection, wherein the connection is set on the basis of the single URL;

the content distribution control section is configured to:

determine whether or not streaming to the client can be maintained even when there is switching between the channels described in the second channel list; and

execute breakage of the HTTP connection where it is determined that the streaming cannot be maintained; and

the content providing server is configured to notify breakage information about the HTTP connection, via an event notification connection between the server and the client.

41. (Previously Presented) The content providing server as described in claim 30, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content between the server and the client is an HTTP (HyperText Transport Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

the content distribution control section is configured to execute switching between the channels described in the second channel list by controlling the tuner at a timing when streaming, of the channels, to the client can be maintained.

42. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus that receives content from a tuner set in a server via a local area network, comprising:

a data transmission/reception section that executes data transmission/reception process with respect to the server that provides content via the local area network, wherein the tuner receives the content over channels and the server stores a first channel list including the channels; and

a control section configured to:

transmit to the server, via the local area network, a content transmission request including a second channel list, the second channel list including a plurality of the channels included in the first channel list; and

transmit a distribution control request for the content, wherein the server designates a control instance that executes control over content streaming,

wherein the data transmission/reception section receives content corresponding to the ~~plurality of~~ channels as a single unit of controlled content, the single unit of controlled content being streamed over a single connection as a single unit of streamed content represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator) ~~and streamed over a single connection.~~

43. (Previously Presented) The information processing apparatus as described in claim 42, wherein:

the control section is configured to:

transmit a connection preparation request, to the server, to acquire an ID of the control instance, wherein the ID comprises a tuner identification function ID based on protocol information stored in the server; and

transmit the distribution control request for the content, wherein the

acquired control instance ID is included in the distribution control request.

44. (Previously Presented) The information processing apparatus as described in claim 42, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content between the server and the client is an HTTP (HyperText Transport Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

the control section executes content reception before and after switching between the plurality of channels described in the second channel list by using the HTTP connection.

45. (Currently Amended) A content transmission control method for transmitting content from a tuner, set in a server, to a client via a local area network, wherein the tuner receives the content over channels and the server stores a first channel list including the channels, comprising:

setting a control instance, wherein content corresponding to channels in a second channel list is set as a unit of content to execute control over streaming of the content corresponding to the second channel list;

receiving a control request, designating the control instance, from the client via the local area network;

controlling the tuner by using the control instance designated in the control request; and

streaming the unit of content based on the control request, wherein the unit of content is streamed over a single connection and [[is]] the streamed unit of content is represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator).

46. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL; and

setting the control instance further comprises associating the single URL with the control instance.

47. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content between the server and the client is an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

setting the control instance further comprises content streaming using the HTTP

connection, wherein the content streaming is executed before and after switching between the channels described in the second channel list.

48. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

the content information contains protocol information corresponding to the content, the protocol information containing a function ID as tuner identification information; and

setting the control instance further comprises controlling the tuner on the basis of the function ID.

49. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

the content transmission control method further comprises executing connection management based on a connection management table comprising an instance ID as an identifier of the control instance, a connection ID as a connection identifier between the server and the client, and protocol information corresponding to the content.

50. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

receiving the control request further comprises receiving a request for streaming content compliant with a SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol).

51. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, further comprising:

- setting the single URL as an identifier for the second channel list;
- receiving an HTTP-GET method as a content request from another client, the request invoking the single URL; and
- streaming, through an HTTP connection, content based on the URL invoked by the client.

52. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

- the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

- the second channels list comprises the single URL;
- a connection for streaming of the content is an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

- content transmission control method further comprises:
 - determining whether or not streaming of the content, to the client can be maintained even when there is switching between the channels described in the second channel list;

- executing breakage of the HTTP connection where it is determined that the streaming cannot be maintained; and

- notifying breakage information about the HTTP connection via an event notification connection between the server and the client.

53. (Previously Presented) The content transmission control method as described in claim 45, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs(Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content is an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

executing switching between the channels described in the second channel list by controlling the tuner at a timing when streaming of the content, to the client, can be maintained.

54. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for receiving content from a tuner set in a server via a local area network, wherein the tuner receives the content over channels and the server stores a first channel list including the channels, comprising:

transmitting a content transmission request including a second channel list, the second channel list including a plurality of the channels included in the first channel list;

transmitting via the local area network a distribution control request for the content, wherein the server designates a control instance that executes control over content distribution; and

receiving content corresponding to the ~~plurality of~~ channels as a single unit of controlled content, wherein the single unit of controlled content is streamed over a

single connection as a single unit of streamed content represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator) ~~and is streamed over a single connection.~~

55. (Previously Presented) The information processing method as described in claim 54, further comprising:

transmitting a connection preparation request, to the server, to acquire an ID of the control instance, wherein the ID comprises a tuner identification function ID based on protocol information stored in the server; and

transmitting a distribution control request for the content, wherein the acquired control instance ID is included in the distribution control request.

56. (Previously Presented) The information processing method as described in claim 54, wherein:

the first channel list comprises a plurality of URLs (Uniform Resource Locators) including the single URL;

the second channel list comprises the single URL;

a connection for streaming of the content is an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) connection set on the basis of the single URL; and

executing content reception before and after switching between the plurality of channels described in the second channel list by using the HTTP connection.

57. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising a computer program which when executed on a processor, causes the processor to

perform a method, the method comprising:

transmitting content from a tuner, set in a server, to a client via a local area network, wherein the tuner receives the content over channels and the server stores a first channel list including the channels;

setting a control instance, wherein content corresponding to channels in a second channel list is set as a unit of content to execute control over streaming of the content corresponding to the second channel list;

receiving a control request, designating the control instance, from the client via the local area network; and

controlling the tuner by using the control instance designated in the control request,

wherein the content is transmitted by streaming the unit of content, over a single connection, based on the control request, the unit of streamed content being represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator).

58. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium comprising a computer program which when executed on a processor, causes the processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

receiving content from a tuner set in a server, via a local area network, wherein the tuner receives the content over channels and the server stores a first channel list including the channels;

transmitting a content transmission request including a second channel list, the second channel list including a plurality of the channels included in the first channel

list; and

transmitting, via the local area network, a distribution control request for the content, wherein a control instance that executes control over content streaming is designated in the server,

wherein the content is received when the tuner streams content corresponding to the ~~plurality~~ of channels as a single unit of content, the single unit of streamed content being represented by a single URL (Uniform Resource Locator) and being streamed over a single connection.